

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OES-03 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

COA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07 L-02

NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 RSC-01 SS-15 SP-02

FEAE-00 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02 H-01 PA-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCON, UNEP

SUBJECT: IRS FOCAL POINTS MEETING: FINAL REPORT

REF: NAIROBI 573; STATE 14357

1. THE FIRST MEETING ON FOCAL POINT MANAGEMENT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (IRS) WAS HELD AT UNEP HEADQUARTERS FROM JAN. 20-24, 1975. THE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY 86 PARTICIPANTS FROM 71 STATES WHO WERE INVITED IN THEIR CAPACITY AS MANAGERS OF PRESENT OR PROPOSED IRS FOCAL POINTS AND ALLIED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS. THE USSR AND PRC SENT DELEGATES.

2. EACH COUNTRY WAS INVITED IN TURN TO MAKE A STATEMENT IN RESPECT TO ITS NATIONAL PLAN FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE IRS NETWORK. THE U.S. DESCRIBED IN DETAIL THE DECENTRALIZED NATURE OF THE U.S. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN WITH PARTICIPATION
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BY A NUMBER OF FEDERAL AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS BEING

COORDINATED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT THROUGH A SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS. MOST COUNTRY PLANS PRESENTED AT MEETING ARE HIGHLY CENTRALIZED. HOWEVER, MANY PARTICIPANTS FROM COUNTRIES NOT YET COMMITTED TO NATIONAL PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF IRS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE U.S. PLAN AS A MODEL FOR THEIR OWN PROGRAMS.

3. THE PARTICIPANTS RECOMMENDED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNEP:

A) THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE OPERATING CAPABILITY OF THE IRS NETWORK IN CONSULTATION WITH PARTICIPATING STATES.

B) PRIORITY ATTENTION TO BE GIVEN TO STAFFING THE IRS CENTRAL UNIT

C) PERIODIC EVALUATION OF THE IRS OPERATIONS

D) PROVISION BE MADE FOR THE TRAINING OF FOCAL POINT STAFF (PRIMARILY FOR LDC'S)

4. ISSUE OF WEST GERMAN FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (REFTEL) NEVER CAME UP AS RESULT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN DELEGATIONS OF TWO GERMANIES TO AVOID ANY REFERENCE TO FEA. CONSEQUENTLY, OFFICIAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS WILL BE BY COUNTRY ONLY WITH NO REFERENCE TO AGENCY. THERE WILL BE NO LIST OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS AT THIS TIME, AS THIS WOULD HAVE SHOWN FEA. ONLY POLITICAL EVENT TO ENLIVEN MEETING WAS CAREFULLY STAGED EXCHANGE OF STATEMENTS BY CYPRIOT AND TURKISH DELEGATES, WHO APPARENTLY COLLABORATED IN DRAFTING EACH OTHER'S REMARKS.
MARSHALL

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